

# OBHS News

Volume X, Issue 5

October 6, 2008

Newsletter of the Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc. ©2008  
Founded in 1998 to Preserve and Share the Heritage of the Old-Brule Region.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alice Christensen, Amnicon, President  
Shirley Kankas-Rouleau, Lk. Nebag 1<sup>st</sup> V. P.  
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Hope Swenson, Lakeside  
Nancy Wiitala, Superior  
Eddie Walman, Maple, Alternate  
Jim Pellman, Maple, Emeritus

## OCTOBER OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 6 P.M., OCTOBER 8, 2008, AT THE BRULE TOWN HALL.

***Program: Forest Educator and Naturalist, Josh McIntyre, of the DNR Staff, Brule River State Forest, who will give a Powerpoint presentation on the History of the Brule Valley and Current State Forest Policies.***

WE WILL BEGIN OUR EVENING WITH OUR SPEAKER, FOLLOWED BY OUR REFRESHMENT BREAK  
AND THEN OUR BUSINESS MEETING.

**ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS ARE WELCOME!**

**Thanks to the Town of Brule for the use of their Hall, and to all those serving.  
REFRESHMENTS WILL BE UNSOLD GOODS FROM OUR RECENT BAKE SALE.**

### FROM THE PRESIDENT:

The Old-Brule Heritage Society recently held an election of officers to serve on its Board and I was elected President. I am a charter member of the organization and have served eight years on the Board, with five of those years as the organization's first Treasurer. I have volunteered and worked in various capacities within our group and plan to continue to do so.

I grew up in Maple's northeastern area, locally known as *Kaskenperä*, Finnish for "burned and beaten area". At that time the entire neighborhood spoke Finnish. Finnish was my first language and I feel I spoke the language quite fluently. In future newsletters I'll be writing about *Kaskenperä*, and a lot about the Eskolin House as I spent much of my childhood visiting Mr. and Mrs. Eskolin.

In closing I encourage everybody to take a drive or walk to enjoy the beauty of the Fall colors, and to taste the wild plums, choke cherries, and of course the apples, which are all so abundant this year.

Sincerely,  
Alice Christensen

### FROM THE EDITOR:

Many of us spent large parts of the last three days at the Davidson Windmill providing tours and raising needed funds through our annual bake sale. It was difficult not to wonder how the effects of the national financial market crisis might translate into numbers in our visitor attendance. How much would the gifts in our donations buckets be affected?

Now, with all of the weekend's tasks complete, and with tallies being made, we appear to have done quite well. There is a chance that traffic was a little lighter, that our donations were not quite as large. But the satisfaction was immense as we watched the seniors and the young navigate our new walkway. We were thrilled at the stories of several who spoke lovingly of their early simpler homes in places as far away as Indiana and Iowa as they touched the cracked paint of old carsiding, warmed their hands at our Round Oak stove, or admired the careful craftsmanship of the Eskolin Log House's master builder. We heard the same pleasure and awe in the voices of men machinists, and of a woman wind electric generator promoter as they spoke to us, eyes lifted to the slowly turning Windmill blades. Through our hard efforts in creating this rich setting, these guests were free to connect with important meanings in their lives, though physically removed from their earlier experiences.

It is my hope that our other efforts at calendars, maps, books, on our Web site and through our archives will allow the same strong force of re-collection of the deepest meanings of those we reach inside and outside of our group. Thank you all.  
-Jim Pellman

### **2006, 2007 and 2008 OLD-BRULE HISTORY PHOTO CALENDARS FOR SALE.**

The Brule History Research Group, organized in 1995, produced its eighth and final calendar in 2005 with pictures of Brule's past. Proceeds of these annual calendar sales since 1998, when the first one was produced, are being used for the publication of the history of Brule, hopefully to be completed soon. Limited numbers of their 2005 calendar and earlier issues are still available. To order any of these calendars by mail, please write or call Janet Follis, P.O. Box 114, Brule, WI 54820, (715) 372-4948.

Continuing in the BHRG calendar tradition, the *2008 Old-Brule Heritage Society History Photo Calendar* is now available at \$7.00 each. Our earlier calendars are also available at \$5.00 (2006) and \$6.00 (2007) in limited numbers. The 2008 calendar is available from O-BHS members or at limited local business outlets. An e-mail address for more info: [musketeer6@cheqnet.net](mailto:musketeer6@cheqnet.net), and phone: 715-363-2549, or check our Web site at [www.oldbrule.org](http://www.oldbrule.org). Shipping and handling costs are \$3.50 each. The 2009 calendar is in process.

**OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THE *OBHS NEWS* ARE THOSE OF THE WRITERS ALONE AND ARE NOT INTENDED TO REPRESENT OFFICIAL POSITIONS OF THE O-BHS ORGANIZATION.**

### **ARCHIVES/COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE.**

The Archives Committee would welcome other volunteers to help us in this important part of the OBHS mission. Our continuing project is learning to use the computer in support of our work, scanning documents and photos, storing records and creating databases. Our thanks to our loyal committee members and contributors, and to the Town of Maple for archive space. If you enjoy exacting work please join us at 1 p.m. at the Pellmans' some Monday afternoon. Next meetings: October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008, 1:00 p.m. Please call 363-2549 to confirm meeting time and place.

### **Unapproved ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC. Lake Nebagamon Auditorium, August 16, 2008, Noon**

The meeting opened with a pot luck lunch at 12:00 Noon.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Our President, Earl Granroth, called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m. We held a moment of silence for members lost over the year and for those serving in the Military. He introduced our guest speaker, member Mr. John Altshool of Cincinnati, who spoke on "Weyerhaeuser Logging Activities in the Old Brule Region." He spoke and showed pictures of Weyerhaeuser and his logging activities and also a log with the Nebagamon Lumber Company log mark that he had found. His message was very interesting to all. He closed by opening the floor to questions.

Annual Meeting was again called to order for the business meeting by our President at 2:00 p.m.

**MINUTES:** Earl asked for approval of the August 18, 2007, Annual Meeting Minutes held at the Davidson Windmill that had been posted on the Website and in our October 2007 *OBHS News*. Marion Christensen moved to approve the Minutes and Irene Parenteau seconded the motion, which carried

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Irene Parenteau moved to approve that Earl take over the Treasurer's duties as Jackie Plunkett resigned as of July 22, 2008 for personal reasons, until our new Treasurer is elected. Alice seconded the motion which carried. Earl handed out the Financial Report for everyone to see and asked if there were any questions. Earl explained the Treasurer's Report. Mary Ann has a question about postage and Jim explain what is sent with postage. Jim moved to accept the Financial Report, and Mary Ann seconded the motion, which carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Review of last year's activities. Earl explained about the Board being polled to make a decision on the second estimate from Pooler of \$3,906.00 and adjustments. The board did approve that polling procedure at the

last Board meeting. Jim moved that the Board make the decision, and Irene Parenteau seconded the motion, which carried.

**Davidson Windmill:** Items for the new Board to discuss at their September 10, 2008, Board Meeting at the Eskolin House: Mid Summer 2008 /Apple Festival weekend ; Eskolin House Work, Chimney /Wiring/ Storage room counter and cabinets/ Stove/ Sidewalk Construction/ Memorial Pavers/Flag Pole/ Memorial Stone/and ConocoPhillips Grants in the name of Paul Colby. His volunteerism and grants have been essential. Coming: Storage Building/Signs/ and Front Door. Earl explained the sidewalk project, on what it cost and how many square feet it is, and what is still owed on it. Four of the fellows helped Pooler so he took off \$ 700.00. Plus he gave \$200.00 of work and materials as a gift. Jim moved that we approve that Earl send a letter to Dave explaining the final terms, and Shirley seconded the motion. Motion carried. Barb Granroth thanked everyone for all of their hard work at the Mill. Paul Colby thanked Earl for taking all the pictures, and everyone who worked on the Flag Pole.

**Model T Centennial Run:** There will be a Model T Run from Superior to the Windmill on Saturday, September 27, 2008. They will be here after 2:00 p.m. Lois Pollari brought it up about others using the Mill image, which we'll have to discuss at our September 10th meeting. An approval is needed if the Windmill image is used by others in publicity. Harry Wester moved that we allow one time use and Eddie Walman seconded the motion. Motion carried. The Windmill will be open that day from 12:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. If anyone locally is interested in bringing a Model T to the Mill they will be there around 2:00 p.m.

**Publication Committee:** *Wisconsin Far Northwest* is available as well as *Sisu & Sauna* book.

Pollari Memorial Historical Map is in progress. Fall Printing. Davidson Windmill History Booklet in progress. Fall Printing.

Calendar: 2009 now to begin in earnest.

**Archives Committee:** has been meeting every other week at Pellmans at 1:00 p.m.

**Finn Fest 2008 Duluth Summary:** Planning, Tori Booth, and Tour.

**Fund-raising:** ConocoPhillips Grants, Murphy Oil, Yonkers Coupon books.

**Website Committee:** Earl Granroth has been doing the updates on our Website. Jon Winters is our host. Thank you to both Earl and Jon for all they do on the Website.

**Brule History Research Group:** Lila said it is coming along fine.

**Election of Officers:**

<u>Leaving the Board</u>	<u>Nominees</u>	<u>Remaining Members</u>
Earl Granroth	Lila Ahola Ronn	Alice Christensen, final year
Karin Colby	Ron Hendrickson	Shirley Kankas Rouleau
Jackie Plunkett	Harry Wester	Irene Brazill up for renewal
Marion Christensen	Audrey Hakkila	Hope Swenson final year
Jack Pank	Paul Colby	Mary Ann Gronquist
Irene Parenteau	Nancy Wiitala	Jim Pellman, Emeritus
Mary Wester Alt	Eddie Walman, Alt.	

Jim Pellman moved that we approve the list of nominees to replace the outgoing Board Members, and approve renewal to second term of Irene Brazill. Marion Christensen seconded the motion, which carried

**Memberships:** Membership dues are due now, and Volunteer time sheets. New time sheets will be given out later.

Recognitions for Volunteers Hours:

Earl Granroth 350 hrs.	Jack Pank 135 hrs
Jackie Plunkett 877 hrs.	Ron Hendrickson 120 hrs.
Marilyn Pank 72 1/2 hrs.	Delores Pellman 150 Hrs
Shirley Kankas-Rouleau 231hrs.	Barb Granroth 42 hrs.
Harry Wester 100 hrs	Audrey Hakkila 128hrs.
Mary Wester 50 hrs.	Jim Pellman 500hrs
Karin Colby 237 hrs.	

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Northwest Regional Convention** of Wisconsin for Local History at Hurley Wisconsin on August 23, 2008.

**Scholarship:** Jenna Willoughby of Lake Nebagamon, winner of 2008 \$250.00 Northwestern High Scholarship. A motion was made to provide funding for the 2009 \$250.00 Scholarship at Northwestern High by Marion Christensen

with a second by Mary Ann Gronquist. Motion carried.

**Windmill Bayfield Apple Festival Week End Open House:** Plans will be discussed at next Board Meeting.

**Next Board Meeting:** September 10, 2008, Eskolin House, 6:00 p.m.

**Next Regular Meeting:** Wednesday, October 8, 2008, 6:00 p.m. No location or speaker listed as of yet.

**Board Meeting for Officers' Election** to follow immediately.

**Other New Business:** None

Thank you to all who brought and served lunch.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Irene Parenteau moved that we adjourn with a second by Alice. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin Colby, Secretary

**Unapproved MINUTES OF THE OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY  
BOARD MEETING FOR ELECTION OF OFFICERS  
Immediately Followed Annual Meeting  
Lake Nebagamon Auditorium, August 16, 2008**

**Members Present:** Alice Christensen; Shirley Kankas-Rouleau; Mary Ann Gronquist, Irene Brazill, Jim Pellman, Ron Hendrickson, Lila Ronn, Harry Wester, and Nancy Wiitala. **Absent:** Paul Colby, Audrey Hakkila, Hope Swenson, Eddie Walman, Alternate.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Earl Granroth, exiting President, called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

**ELECTION:** After nomination, the following members were unanimously elected by the Board to serve as officers for 2008-09:

President:	Alice Christensen
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President:	Shirley Kankas-Rouleau
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President:	Harry Wester
Secretary:	Lila Ronn
Treasurer:	Ron Hendrickson

**OTHER BUSINESS: Next Board Meeting:** Wednesday, September 10, 2008, 6:00 p.m. at the Eskolin House.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Shirley moved that we adjourn, seconded by Harry. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lila Ronn, Secretary

**FUND-RAISING MERCHANDISE FOR SALE**

The Society has available regional history magnets, plus Davidson Windmill memorabilia: mugs, caps and tee shirts and sweat shirts for sale. Early issue magnets are going for \$1 each, or 6 for \$5.00, proceeds to our general fund. The Windmill mugs are \$4.00, old stock caps, \$5.00, and tee shirts, any size, \$10, all proceeds going into the Windmill Fund. Sweat shirts, any size are \$25.00, now on sale at ½ price, taxes included. **SEE OUR WEB SITE ([www.oldbrule.org](http://www.oldbrule.org)) FOR CURRENT SALE ITEMS AND PRICES.**

Available also are copies of a David Noah Seis photograph of the mill. This image comes in three sizes: 4 by 5 inches, 5 by 7 inches, and 8 ½ by 11 inches. The smaller reproductions can also be used as post cards as each has a brief historical description on half of its reverse side. Prices are \$1.00, \$2.00 and the largest one which has no printing on it \$3.00. All are laser reproductions on card stock suitable for framing. This same image is available in our magnet series. Our book, *Wisconsin Far Northwest*, and Nan Wisherd's books, *Pathways* and *Echoes*, and Lakeside's *Sisu and Sauna* are available for \$20.00 a copy + \$4.00 shipping. Wisconsin tax is included in all of our prices. Shipping and handling for mugs, caps and tee shirts is a \$4.00 minimum. All items are also available for purchase at our meetings or by contacting an O-BHS member. O-BHS Calendars for 2006 (\$5), 2007(\$6) and 2008 (\$7) are also available (\$3.50 shipping). See box on Page 2 above for more info.

**Unapproved BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.**

Eskolin House, Town of Lakeside, September 10, 2008, 6:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** President Alice Christensen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Harry Wester, Secretary Lila Ronn, Treasurer Ron Hendrickson, Irene Brazill, Mary Ann Gronquist, Audrey Hakkila, Jim Pellman, Hope Swenson, Edward Walman, and Nancy Wiitala.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Alice called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Ron reviewed an OBHS Treasurer's report summary for August 2008 that was prepared by acting Treasurer Earl Granroth. Accounts at the Chippewa Valley Bank include a checkbook balance of \$1,710.01 and \$2,550 in a Savings Account (Windmill Fund, Map Project, Eskolin Cupboards, and NWHS Scholarship fund). Accounts at National Bank of Commerce include the \$2,270.90 in the Windmill Savings Account and \$5,287.27 in a Certificate of Deposit. The total in Checking and Savings is \$11,818.18.

The \$1,000 grant check recently received from ConocoPhillips is not included in the totals above. This grant needs to be acknowledged.

Mary Ann moved and Nancy seconded approval of the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Davidson Windmill Report:**

**Sidewalk:** Jim has started the engraving process on the pavers and has blackened in a few with a permanent black marker. He has been advised to apply a lacquer over the entire top to keep water out which would lift the carbon. Seventy-two (72) pavers are needed for each square. Currently 164 pavers have been purchased. Several members signed up to help with the process to complete the first square.

**Biffy Storage Building:** Eddie has newly-sawed 2 x 4s which could be used. Jim reported there is a \$40 fee for county building permit; he has the form to complete. The building will be placed on top of slab. Jim thought it would be a good idea to have a floor. The Board has previously approved the construction.

**Grounds:** The flagpole needs to be stripped and painted. Jim has a hollow ball about 5 inches in diameter that could be used as a ball for the pole. In the future, if we plan to fly an additional flag such as that of Finland, we will need to either purchase a second pole of the same ht., or fly that flag somewhere else on the grounds. (Another country's flag can be flown together with the US flag only in the event of war.) The Board put decisions related to the flagpole on hold.

**Signage:** The Board discussed placement of another Windmill sign to be placed where travelers could easily see it, ideally a State Historical sign. Earl will be asked to continue investigating options.

**Eskolin House:** Cabinets and counter, as well as the stove and chimney, will be installed soon. Ron has ordered a stovepipe adapter. Jim is working on the main door, but thinks we need to incorporate a window to provide both needed light in front of the building and improved air circulation. Alice wondered if there was anyone we could hire to improve the light and airflow, while maintaining the historic appearance of the building. Paul Colby has a catalog on old doors. Harry noted that the Town of Bennett has tables available; the Board asked him to try to obtain two of them for our use.

**Mill Merchandise:** Shirley Kankas-Rouleau has the report.

**Windmill History Booklet:** Jim is working on this project. He has considerable writings from Jim Davidson to include.

**National Register Plaque:** We have been registered in the National Register since 1976 and have a brass plaque that needs to be mounted where it would be secure. The plaque measures approximately 5 x 5 inches and is about ½ inch thick. Harry has ¼ inch anchors that might be used; Eddie has a hammer drill. Decisions related to mounting of the plaque were put on hold.

**Next Mill Meeting:** The next mill committee meeting will take place after the Apple Festival. The date was tentatively set for Wednesday, October 15 at the mill, with a workday scheduled on that same date. A work plan for the Biffy Storage building needs to be organized. Boards will be placed vertically. A shed roof is planned. Ed Walman said he would have the materials.

**Fund-raising:** No report.

**Archives Committee:** An audit is needed to apply for any grant. Grant applications also require that applicants identify significant projects. We have received another \$1,000 grant from ConocoPhillips for purposes of improving the landscape; we still have money received from a prior grant to buy additional furniture. Paul and the committee are working on this. It was suggested that we contact Tom Williams to build one picnic table with attached benches using

greenwood (not moveable, non-folding). It would be anchored to a concrete platform. Jim will update Paul.

**Web-Site Committee:** No report.

**Pollari Memorial Gift Committee:** Audrey had received no response to her recent e-mail to Randy Jones regarding progress of Heritage maps.

**Publicity/Advertising Committee:** The Board thanked Audrey for her fine work with press releases. She was encouraged to continue with this effort for one more year. She reported that *The Connection* and *Northwoods Shopper* were good resources. Earl will continue his work developing and maintaining our web site. Mary Ann has recently distributed 50 brochures to the Superior Chamber of Commerce; the Bong Memorial will also take more. The new Holiday Inn in Solon Springs may be another possible site. Jim suggested Amnicon State Park as another place for location of the brochures. We still have one full box plus a few more brochures.

**Publications Committee:** Jim has begun the process of selecting pictures for the 2009 Calendars. Those wanting *Far Northwest* maps to complete their collection should contact him.

**Membership Committee:** Dues are currently being collected. More blue sheets for volunteer hours will be available at the next meeting.

**Brule History Research Report:** No report.

**FinnFest 2008:** Our total profit was close to \$300. Importantly, however, OBHS received recognition among those in attendance

**Taylor's Bridge:** Currently on hold.

**Next Board Meeting:** If weather permits, the next meeting will be held at Eskolin House at 6:00 p.m. on November 12 (Alternate: Alice's house). We will need to review insurance—we now have liability only with Saari-Stone. [It was noted that there was an ant problem at the Eskolin House. Jim moved and Hope seconded that we hire Plunketts (or an alternate) to spray the house, cost not to exceed \$200. The motion was carried.]

**Next Regular Meeting:** October 8, 6:00 p.m. It was decided that the next meeting would be held at the Brule Town Hall, if possible, with Amnicon Town Hall in Wentworth being an alternate site. Hope will make arrangements for a speaker from the DNR at the Brule River State Forest. There will be a \$25 honorarium for speaker.

**Annual Meeting:** The election of new officers was noted in previous minutes.

**Bateau:** We need to check if Earl has sent a letter to Douglas County indicating that we cannot accept the bateau. If he hasn't, Alice will need to do so, providing closure to this matter.

**Bayfield Apple Festival:** It was decided to have the Windmill and Eskolin House open on Friday evening, October 3, from 3-6 p.m., and on Saturday, October 4, from 9-5 p.m. Jim will bring the three panel stand with information about the Eskolin house. The bake sale will be on Saturday only; OBHS members will be called for contributions. The following volunteers will be available:

Thursday: Alice will clean and set merchandise out

Friday night and Saturday: Harry, Jim, and Ron

Saturday : Hope, Mary Anne, and Irene

We will need to check with Jack Pank to see if he will be available to assist. Earl may also wish to help.

After discussion, it was decided to keep the free-will donation.

**Model T Visit:** The Model T group is expected to arrive at the Windmill at approximately 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 27. We will have coffee available. Jim and Alice will be there to staff; Jack Pank may also be available.

**Other Old Business:** Harry said that Jim Altshool, speaker at the annual meeting in August, wants maps, especially the big railroad map. They would need to be in color. Jim will get copies made.

Ron reported that he and his wife are going on a 117-day trip beginning January 14. He will check with Earl to make sure we have another currently authorized check writer.

An unofficial membership list was handed out. We are currently sending newsletters to some who are not current and/or may be interested in membership. In the past, the membership cards that Jackie filled out went through Jim for mailing with the newsletter. Jim recommended that we have a Membership Secretary, with dues continuing to go to the Treasurer. The Membership Secretary would, in turn, develop a mailing list. Audrey volunteered her services in this capacity.

We have received correspondence that Esko is having their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual heritage day's festival on September 20, 2008.

Regarding construction of the Biffy storage building, we are supposed to have a 10-acre lot and may not meet zoning requirements. A variance may be needed. Construction on the little building might need to be on hold. Jim will proceed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The Board Members' notebooks need to be standardized. Many are overloaded. Essential information such as by-laws, committee procedures, etc...need to be included in everyone's notebook, but non-important information needs to be culled.

When is the annual meeting of the finance committee?

We need to get on record our appreciation of past board members. (Certificates will be presented at our October meeting.)

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully,

Lila M. Ronn, Secretary

<p>Area History: No. 64</p>
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### Baseball in the Town of Maple.

by Jim Pellman © 2008

*With the professional baseball playoffs now in progress, the following excerpt is submitted as an example of an important part of the personal recollections we need to collect for our Old-Brule Heritage Society Archive. It was written for inclusion in my upcoming book on Maple's past called The Discovery of Maple.*

The Town of Maple had men's hardball baseball teams over the years, often sponsored by local businesses. Uniforms were irregular, and equipment was basic and hand me down. The playing field earlier was on private "vacant land" near the old Mill Pond, moved later to a flatter, sandier spot on the road side on Highway F on a lot now covered with buildings owned by the Keith and Jackie Plunkett family. The coaches, depending upon the level of ball played, were dedicated volunteers, as were the much razed umpires. In the summers of 1963 and 1964 while I worked at Grandpa Ted Pollari's Mobil Service Station I had the pleasure of playing on the Maple team made up of local boys who were still in school and who ranged in age from thirteen or fourteen to seventeen or eighteen. We were following in the footsteps of such legendary Maple prospects as Calvin Pollari, Paul Niemi, Edwin Lukkarila, Toivo Rinnet, Carl Pellman and Jeff Hermanson.

There were no forms to fill in, no insurance disclaimers to sign. The players just showed up. This was not Little League, nor even Babe Ruth League, but the competition, and the perfecting of baseball skills, was a totally serious business and a fine art.

Our competition varied in the level of their equipment, levels of preparation and bleachers and field facilities. We played against Brule, Gordon, Lakeside and other rural towns. A higher, older tier of players, joined teams in Poplar and Lake Nebagamon in the Vacationland League, something to aspire to.

Our coaches in those years were the late John Lahti who was the Maple mail carrier, with Hugo Salomaki taking over the following year after John's tragic highway death while delivering mail. John's kids, Gordy and Gayann (now Sandoval) would come to watch us play.

I was a pitcher at the high school level in Babbitt, Minnesota, where I had moved with my family in 1957, leaving all my friends and grandparents and the Corner School behind. I was fast, and wild enough that hitters had to be ready to bail out. But my hero in hitting, however, was Dean Chance, a great pitcher for the Twins whose average at the plate might have been zero. We had no radar guns in those days, but I suspect that anything that topped seventy miles an hour was invisible to me...make that sixty. But below that speed I could hit with some power, still not very often. (I later hit cleanup in a slow pitch league.) It was hazardous to go to the plate without a hard hat when the wildest pitches were the ones you couldn't see. Of course we had no hard hats.

Among my teammates in those years were Roger Salomaki, Bobby Haukkala, Danny, Dale and Douglas Saari, and Steven Alexson, our catcher. Steven, when he sees me to this day, will hold up his left hand and shake it, like it was hot. He was fast in bringing the mitt back into the strike zone which saved me many a walk.

The players on opposing teams might have been closer friends if I had attended Northwestern

High School, but instead I was something of a “ringer” due to my Minnesota status, and an alien. Obe Saari, Wallace Stuck, and boys named Pearson come to mind as batters who dodged my pitches. We won our share of games when my pitches found the plate. For all my wildness I can’t remember hitting any batters, although some of them might remember as they read

this. By the summer of 1965 I was out of high school and that fall attended UMD. My left shoulder and elbow were done for fast balls, curves and screwballs by that time. But the pain has been much greater in losing some of my old teammates over the years.

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- NOTICES -

**THANK YOUS & RECOGNITIONS:** To those many who continue to donate toward Windmill paver memorials. Engraving progresses as time permits. To the crew that served our guests at the Windmill during Apple Festival, and to the many bakers and canners for their donations to the bake sale. A special thanks to **Gary Luoma** for his huge pot of *mojakka* (stew), and to **Mary Ann Gronquist** for her chile and sloppy joes. **Ron Hendrickson**’s Round Oak stove kept all of us toasty.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** To **Jeff and Claire Dunker**, recently married at Spirit Mountain in Duluth, nephew and niece of Jim Pellman.

**ENCOURAGEMENTS:** To **Delores Pellman**, with health issues, recently named to Jury Duty!

**OUR SYMPATHY:** To **Harry and Mary Wester** and other family and friends of Harry’s brother-in-law, **John Ernst**, from Orr, MN who died on Saturday. To the family and friends of **Viola Tapani** of Brule who died at 90 on September 30<sup>th</sup>. To the family and friends of **Aili Perala** of Maple, especially to nieces Doris Perala and Doreen Swanson. Aili died August 11 at 96. To the family and friends of **Cecilia Ronchi** of Amnicon who passed away September 8<sup>th</sup> at 93. To the family and friends of former Lakeside resident, **Dr. Martin Nurmi**. To the families and friends of **JoAnn Burhans** of Poplar who died August 17<sup>th</sup> at 69, and to wife Liane and family of **Kenneth Dalbec** of Blueberry who died August 24<sup>th</sup> at 78. Finally to husband Duane, family and friends of **Adelaide “Ann” Saari** of Maple who died August 21<sup>st</sup> at 57.

*... and who have we missed or forgotten?*

CALENDAR

**October 8**, Wednesday, Next Regular Meeting. 6 p.m at the Brule Town Hall. Speaker: Naturalist Josh McIntyre, on the Brule River State Forest. Refreshments will be goodies left over from our recent bake sale.

**October 13**, Monday. Columbus Day.

**October 15**, Wednesday, Work day at the Windmill. Build storage shed. At 6 p.m., Windmill Committee meets, Eskolin House.

**October 20**, Monday, 1 p.m. Next Archive Meeting at Pellmans’.

**November 4**, Tuesday. Election Day.

**November 12**, Wednesday, 6:00 p.m., Board Meeting, Eskolin House, Davidson Windmill, Lakeside.

**November 15**, Saturday. Contributions to December *OBHS News* are due. Articles are encouraged!

OLD-BRULE HERITAGE SOCIETY WEB SITE ON LINE

The Website Committee has been building up our Web site ([www.oldbrule.org](http://www.oldbrule.org)). Our thanks to Earl Granroth who continues to make regular updates, and to **Jon Winter** of **Winter Systems in Superior**, our Web host at no charge to us.

Anyone interested in joining the Old-Brule Heritage Society is encouraged to attend any of our meetings and programs. To join they may also contact any member or the President at the return address below, or our Treasurer, Ron Hendrickson, at the same address. Our annual dues are \$15.00 for individuals, and \$25.00 for families, payable at the time of our annual meeting in August. Higher levels of support are always welcome.

**New Members and Visitors are Always WELCOME!**

Old-Brule Heritage Society, Inc.  
Post Office Box 24  
Maple, WI 54854